

1  
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acid methyl-butadiene copolymer, styrene-butadiene copolymer and the like can be employed. Furthermore, a rubber material such as butadiene polymer can be employed.

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Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 3 with the following rewritten paragraph:

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2  
Further, a solution of latex comprising 4 % by weight of styrene-methacrylic acid ester-acrylic acid ester copolymer was applied to the surface of the hydrogen absorbing alloy electrode, was dried at a temperature of 90 °C for 30 minutes, and then pressed, to fabricate a hydrogen absorbing alloy electrode having a coating layer formed thereon composed of styrene-methacrylic acid ester-acrylic acid ester copolymer.

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Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 21 with the following rewritten paragraph:

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3  
In each of the examples 2 to 5, in forming a coating layer on a hydrogen absorbing alloy electrode in the example 1, the type of a polymeric material to be employed in a coating layer was changed. Specifically, ethylene-acrylic acid ester copolymer was used in the

A3  
cont.  
example 2; methacrylic acid methyl-butadiene copolymer in the example 3; styrene-butadiene copolymer in the example 4; and butadiene polymer in the example 5, as shown in the following Table 1a. Except that the above-mentioned polymeric materials were employed in the example 2 to 5, a coating layer was formed on a surface of each hydrogen absorbing alloy electrode in the same manner as that in the example 1.

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Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 14, line 23 with the following rewritten paragraph:

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A4  
In the comparative example 5, in forming a coating layer on a surface of a hydrogen absorbing alloy electrode in the example 1, 1 part by weight of styrene-methacrylic acid ester-acrylic acid ester copolymer which was a binding agent was added to 100 part by weight of the above-mentioned hydrogen absorbing alloy powder, to fabricate a hydrogen absorbing alloy electrode.

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Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 15, line 5 with the following rewritten paragraph:

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AS  
Except that the coating layer composed of styrene-methacrylic acid ester-acrylic acid ester copolymer was formed on a surface of a hydrogen absorbing alloy electrode in the same manner as that in the example 1, and that a hydrogen absorbing alloy electrode employing styrene-methacrylic acid ester-acrylic acid ester copolymer as both a binding agent in the electrode and a coating layer was employed, an alkaline storage battery in the comparative example 5 was fabricated in the same manner as that in the example 1.

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Please replace the Table 1a at page 17, line 1 with the following rewritten Table 1a:

Table 1a

	polymeric material in coating layer	polymeric material in binding agent	output characteristic s (V)
example 1	styrene- methacrylic acid ester-acrylic acid ester copolymer	polyethylene oxide and polyvinyl pyrrolidone	1.165
example 2	ethylene-acrylic acid ester copolymer	polyethylene oxide and polyvinyl pyrrolidone	1.164
example 3	methacrylic acid methyl-butadiene copolymer	polyethylene oxide and polyvinyl pyrrolidone	1.164
example 4	styrene- butadiene copolymer	polyethylene oxide and polyvinyl pyrrolidone	1.163
example 5	butadiene polymer	polyethylene oxide and polyvinyl pyrrolidone	1.159
comparative example 1	polyethylene oxide and polyvinyl pyrrolidone	polyethylene oxide and polyvinyl pyrrolidone	1.155
comparative example 2	polytetrafluoro- ethylene	polyethylene oxide and polyvinyl pyrrolidone	1.150
comparative example 3	polytetrafluoro- ethylene, acetylene black and polyvinyl pyrrolidone	polyethylene oxide and polyvinyl pyrrolidone	1.154
comparative example 4	none	polyethylene oxide and polyvinyl pyrrolidone	1.158
comparative example 5	styrene- methacrylic acid ester-acrylic acid ester copolymer	styrene- methacrylic acid ester-acrylic acid ester copolymer	1.149

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 18, line 3 from the bottom with the following rewritten paragraph:

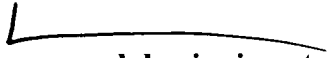
As apparent from the results, compared with each of the alkaline storage batteries in the comparative examples 1 and 5 employing the same polymeric material as both binding agent and coating layer, each of the alkaline storage batteries in the comparative examples 2 and 3 employing fluorocarbon resin as a coating layer to be provided on a surface of a hydrogen absorbing alloy electrode, and an alkaline storage battery in the comparative example 4 not having a coating layer on a surface of a hydrogen absorbing alloy electrode, in each of the alkaline batteries in the examples 1 to 5 employing as a polymeric material in a coating layer to be provided on a surface of a hydrogen absorbing alloy electrode, styrene-methacrylic acid ester-acrylic acid ester copolymer, ethylene-acrylic acid ester copolymer, methacrylic acid methyl-butadiene copolymer, styrene-butadiene copolymer and butadiene polymer, and as a binding agent polyethylene oxide and polyvinyl pyrrolidone which are different from the polymeric material in the coating layer, output characteristics, charge/discharge cycle performance, internal pressure performance and bond strength were all improved.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 19, line 21 with the following  
rewritten paragraph:

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2g In each of the examples 1.1 to 1.6, in applying a solution of latex containing styrene-methacrylic acid ester-acrylic acid ester copolymer to a surface of a hydrogen absorbing alloy electrode, to form a coating layer composed of styrene-methacrylic acid ester-acrylic acid ester copolymer on a surface of a hydrogen absorbing alloy electrode in the example 1, a concentration of styrene-methacrylic acid ester-acrylic acid ester copolymer in the above-mentioned solution of latex was changed. Specifically, the concentration was 0.8 % by weight in the example 1.1, 1.7 % by weight in the example 1.2, 8 % by weight in the example 1.3, 17 % by weight in the example 1.4, 33 % by weight in the example 1.5, and 42 % by weight in the example 1.6.

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Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 20, line 10 with the following  
rewritten paragraph:

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When a coating layer composed of styrene-methacrylic acid ester-acrylic acid ester copolymer was provided on a surface of each hydrogen absorbing alloy electrode as described above, the weight ratio of the coating layer to the total of the coating layer, hydrogen absorbing alloy powder, and a binding agent was 0.1 % by weight in the example 1.1, 0.2 % by weight in the example 1.2, 1 % by weight in the example 1.3, 2 % by weight in the example 1.4, 4 % by weight in the example 1.5, and 5 % by weight in the example 1.6.

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Please replace the Table 2 at page 22, line 1 with the following rewritten Table 2:

Table 2

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a coating layer : styrene-methacrylic acid ester-acrylic acid ester copolymer a binding agent : polyethylene oxide and polyvinyl pyrrolidone			
	weight ratio of coating layer (% by weight)	output characteristics (V)	bond strength (number of squares whose electrode material is put off )
example 1.1	0.1	1.160	22
example 1.2	0.2	1.163	20
example 1	0.5	1.165	20
example 1.3	1	1.164	20
example 1.4	2	1.163	20
example 1.5	4	1.161	20
example 1.6	5	1.160	20

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Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 23, line 5 with the following  
rewritten paragraph:

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A11) Further, in the example 1.1 to 1.6, an example of a case where styrene-methacrylic acid ester-acrylic acid ester copolymer was employed to form a coating layer was shown. However, ethylene-acrylic acid ester copolymer, methacrylic acid methyl-butadiene copolymer, styrene-butadiene copolymer and butadiene polymer are employed to form a coating layer, the same results can be obtained.

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Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 23, line 13 with the following  
rewritten paragraph:

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A12) In each of the examples 1.7 to 1.11, in applying a solution of latex consisting 4 % by weight of styrene-methacrylic acid ester-acrylic acid ester copolymer to a surface of a hydrogen absorbing alloy electrode, drying the above-mentioned solution, to form the coating layer composed of styrene-methacrylic acid ester-acrylic acid ester copolymer on the surface of the electrode in the same manner as that in the example 1, the temperature at which the above-mentioned solution was dried for 30 minutes was 30 °C in the example 1.7, 50 °C in

the example 1.8, 60 °C in the example 1.9, 80 °C in the example  
1.10, and 100 °C in the example 1.11, as shown in the following  
Table 3.

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Please replace the Table 3 at page 25, line 1 with the following rewritten Table 3:

Table 3

A13

a coating layer : styrene-methacrylic acid ester-acrylic acid ester copolymer a binding agent : polyethylene oxide and polyvinyl pyrrolidone			
	drying temperature (°C)	output characteristics (V)	bond strength (number of squares whose electrode material is put off )
example 1.7	30	1.160	23
example 1.8	50	1.162	20
example 1.9	60	1.164	20
example 1.10	80	1.165	20
example 1	90	1.165	20
example 1.11	100	1.163	22

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 25, line 6 from the bottom with the following rewritten paragraph:

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As apparent from the results, in applying a solution of latex consisting styrene-methacrylic acid ester-acrylic acid ester copolymer to a surface of a hydrogen absorbing alloy electrode, drying the above-mentioned solution, to form the coating layer composed of styrene-methacrylic acid ester-acrylic acid ester copolymer on the surface of the electrode, in each of alkaline storage batteries in the example 1, 1.9 and 1.10, wherein the temperature at which the above-mentioned solution was dried was 60 to 90 °C, output characteristics and bond strength were improved, compared with each of alkaline storage batteries in the example 1.7, 1.8 and 1.11, wherein the foregoing temperature was out of the above-mentioned range.